



State of Arizona
Department of Education
Educator Excellence Section

April 24, 2013

Greetings,

With the increase in mathematics requirements for graduation to four credits, district and charter schools requested guidance from the Arizona Department of Education regarding the certification and highly qualified requirements for teachers assigned to teach algebra for high school credit to 7th or 8th grade students. The following guidance is offered to LEAs when addressing the **state certification** and **federal highly qualified** requirements for these mathematics teachers as per Board Rule **R7-2-302.02** iv. Courses successfully completed prior to the ninth grade that meet the high school mathematics credit requirements **may** be applied toward satisfying those requirements.

A middle grade teacher who is appropriately certified and highly qualified to teach mathematics at 7-8 grade, may assign high school credit for 9th grade algebra class taken by a class of 7th or 8th grade students. For example, a teaching holding a valid elementary certificate with an approved area of middle school mathematics teaching algebra to a class of 7th grade students is appropriately certified and highly qualified to teach this class for high school credit. NOTE: A teacher holding a valid secondary certificate with an approved area of 7-12 grade mathematics is appropriately certified and highly qualified to teach any mathematics class grades 7-12.

If you have questions concerning this, please contact our office at 602-364-1842.

Sincerely,

Todd Petersen

Todd Petersen
Deputy Associate Superintendent
Educator Excellence Section

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